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SOURCE Gesetzblatt.

GDR DECREE SETS UP MAIN DIVISION FOR VOCATIONAL TRAINING
WITHIN STATE SECRETARIAT FOR ADVANCED EDUCATION

A decree of 31 January 1952, published in Gesetzblatt der Deutschen Demokratischen Republik (Legal Gazette of the German Democratic Republic) No 23, 19 February 1952, provides for the establishment of a Main Division for Vocational Training within the Staatssekretariat fuer Hochschulwesen (State Secretariat for Advanced Education), on 1 February 1952. In the following, Section 1 of the decree has been summarized; all other sections have been rendered in full.

Section 1

The Main Division for Vocational Training will take over all responsibilities in connection with the central administration of the vocational training system. These responsibilities were formerly assumed by the Ministry for Internal Affairs and the Ministry of Public Education, in accordance with the Decree of 23 March 1950.

Section 2

1. The chief duties of the Main Division for Vocational Training are as follows:

a. Determination and supervision of the nature and the trend of development of vocational schools of every type, in cooperation with the State Planning Commission, according to the requirements of the people-owned economy and the goals of the Five-Year Plan, in the light of Soviet experience along these lines.

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b. Establishment of the vocational school system and of the organizational structure of the schools themselves, and continued improvement of methods of education and instruction, in keeping with the achievements of progressive science.

c. Guidance and supervision of the responsible ministries in connection with the setting up of an adequate number of vocational schools to cope with the tasks set forth in the Five-Year Plan.

d. Coordination of training for teachers for vocational schools. In this connection, the selection and training of vocational instructors is to be carried out in accordance with the requirements of the various fields of specialization. Instructors now teaching at vocational schools are to be given further training.

e. Approval of over-all training plans for vocational schools, and development of curriculums and training programs for sociological faculties and for instruction in all fields, including basic natural-science subjects.

f. Cooperation with the responsible ministries in the procurement of adequate training materials for the vocational schools, and implementation of appropriate measures for the development of training aids.

g. Guidance and supervision of the responsible ministries in the recruitment and selection of vocational students for the various fields of specialization and in the placement of graduates, in accordance with the objectives of the Five-Year Plan.

h. Guidance and supervision of the responsible ministries in the selection and assignment of teaching staffs for the vocational schools. The Main Division for Vocational Training will select and approve the instructors.

1. Action on general and administrative issues pertaining to the vocational school system, on the basis of uniformly applicable principles, especially with regard to school regulations, examination methods, vacation system, scholarships, and compensation of instructors.

2. The vocational training schools will be guided by the responsible ministries in the execution of tasks outlined in paragraph 1; they will be supervised jointly by the responsible ministries and the Main Division for Vocational Training.

Section 3

1. The competent ministries of the German Democratic Republic will bear the responsibility for the vocational schools, whose branches of specialization will be adapted to the scope of responsibilities of the ministries. The competent ministries are to assume the following responsibilities in connection with the vocational schools:

a. Administration of the vocational schools with regard to curriculum, finances, and personnel; guidance and supervision of these schools, in accordance with directives issued by the Main Division for Vocational Training.

b. Development of plans for curriculums and training aids, on the basis of scientific progress and up-to-date practical experience; presentation of such plans to the Main Division for Vocational Training, for approval.

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c. The selection of vocational students, guidance and placement of graduates, and appointment of instructors for the vocational schools, in accordance with directives issued by the Main Division for Vocational Training.

2. Existing vocational schools which specialize in engineering are to be separated from the vocational school system and placed under the jurisdiction of the competent ministries of the German Democratic Republic.

Section 4

The regulations under Sections 2 and 3 also apply to vocational correspondence courses, vocational evening courses, and all vocational courses and schools engaged in the education and training of intermediary cadres of technicians.

Section 5

The budgetary appropriations of the Ministry for Internal Affairs and the Ministry of Public Education for the central administration of the vocational school system will be credited to the budget of the Main Division for Vocational Schools, effective 1 February 1952.

Section 6

The Main Division for Vocational Training shall be authorized, upon basic agreement with the competent ministries of the German Democratic Republic, to issue regulations pertaining to areas of competence dealt with in Section 2, such regulations to be binding for all vocational schools and for the schools referred to in Section 4. The Main Division for Vocational Training is also authorized to supervise the implementation of these regulations.

Section 7

Directives governing the execution of this decree will be issued by the State Secretariat for Advanced Education with the agreement of the competent ministries of the German Democratic Republic.

Section 8

1. This decree shall be effective as of 1 February 1952.
2. At the same time, all regulations contrary to this decree shall become inoperative.

Ministry for Internal Affairs
Dr Steinhoff, Minister

State Secretariat for
Advanced Education
Prof Dr Harig, State Secretary

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